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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/582,000	06/07/2006	Shinichi Inoue	3273-0226PUS1	9234
2292 7590 01/31/2011 BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			EXAMINER HEINCER, LIAM J	
			ART UNIT 1767	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 01/31/2011	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Mailed: 1/31/2011
In re application of
Inoue et al .
Serial No. 10/582,000
Filed: June 07, 2006
For: RUBBER-LIKE ARTICLES AND
RUBBER-LIKE MATERIAL-CONTAINING
ARTICLES

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DECISION ON
PETITION

This is a decision on a PETITION filed January 21, 2011 which has been accepted as a timely petition under 1.59(b) and MPEP 724.02 and is before the Group Director of Technology Center 1700 for consideration.

DECISION

Petitioner requests that pages 1-15 of the document filed November 12, 2010 under the code "AF/D" be expunged.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

Section 1.59 has been amended to eliminate references to returning documents that have been expunged to recognize that, with electronic Official files, there will be nothing to return when a paper is expunged.

The Office is capturing electronic images of all documents that form the Official file. Where the image is generated from a physical source document, the originating document may be disposed of once the electronic image accuracy is verified. The paper source document will eventually be destroyed under a United States National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) approved schedule. Therefore, if a document is to be expunged from the record, the only operation that will be required will be removal of the image from the Official file.

Paragraph (a)(1) of §1.59 has been amended by deleting the phrase "and returned " from the first sentence, and deleting the second sentence. Paragraph (b) of §1.59 has been amended by deleting the phrase "and return " from each of the first and second sentences. The Office will continue to provide notice in the Official file that a paper has been expunged and the Office will send a decision to the applicant notifying the applicant that the paper has been expunged.

10/582,000

The images will be removed from the Official file.

/Yvonne Eyler/
Director, Technology Center 1700

Yvonne L. Eyler, Director
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